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" You, and men like you, can hardly be made to believe, that any such
" change will ever take place. It is now *five and twenty years* since there
" was any real freedom of the press. During that long period Corruption
" has had all the channels of thought in her power. So many thousands
" have fallen under her grasp, she has inflicted such and so many terrible
" blows, that men like you worship her as the American savages are said
" to worship the devil. But, a change is at hand. The Reformers have
" yet many and powerful foes; we have to contend against a host, such
" as never existed before in the world. Nine-tenths of the press; all the
" channels of speedy communication of sentiment; all the pulpits; all
" the associations of rich people; all the taxing people; all the military
" and naval establishments; all the yeomanry cavalry tribes. Your allies
" are endless in number and mighty in influence. But, we have *one ally*
" worth the whole of them put together; namely, the DEBT! This is an
" ally, whom no honours or rewards can seduce from us. She is a steady,
" unrelaxing, persevering, incorruptible ally. An ally that is proof against
" all blandishments, all intrigues, all temptations, and all open attacks.
" She sets at defiance all "*military*," all "*yeomanry cavalry*." They may as
" well fire at a ghost. She cares no more for the sabres of the yeomanry or
" the life guards than Milton's angels did for the swords of Satan's myr-
" midons. This ally cares not a straw about *spies* and *informers*. She
" laughs at the employment of *secret-service money*. She is always erect,
" day and night, and is always firmly moving on in our cause, in spite
" of all the terrors of gaols, dungeons, halters and axes. Therefore, Mr.
" JABET, be not so pert. The combat is not so unequal as you seem to
" imagine; and, confident and insolent as you now are, the day of your
" humiliation may not be far distant.—Already do many of your friends,
" seeing the strength of our ally and the tendency of her march, begin to
" propose measures for *weakening* her; for diminishing her power by
" degrees; for drawing off detachments from her under the name of *re-*
" *duction*. Oh, no! She is not to be taken from our cause in this way!
" She is one and indivisible. She is as staunch as she is strong. She is to
" be beaten only by *blowing up*; and the explosion is *sure* to bury her
" and our assailants in her ruins!"—LETTER TO MR. JABET, OF BIR-
" MINGHAM. Register, Vol. 31. No. 19, page 477; Nov. 9th, 1816.

RURAL RIDE.

FROM BURGHCLERE TO LYN-
HURST, IN THE NEW FOREST.

HURSTBOURNE TARRANT, (com-
monly called UPHUSBAND,) WED-
NESDAY, 11th OCTOBER.—When
quarters are good, you are apt to
lark in them; but, really it was

so wet, that we could not get
away from BURGHCLERE till Mon-
day evening. Being here, there
were many reasons for our going to
the *great fair* at Weyhill, which
began yesterday, and, indeed, the
day before, at APPLESRAW. These
two days are allotted for the sell-
ing of *sheep only*, though the horse-
fair begins on the 10th. To Ap-

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

pleshaw they bring nothing but those fine *curled-horned* and *long-tailed ewes*, which bring the *house-lambs* and the early *Easter-lambs*; and these, which, to my taste, are the finest and most beautiful animals of the sheep kind, come exclusively out of *Dorsetshire* and out of the part of *Somersetshire* bordering on that county.—To *Weyhill*, which is a village of half a dozen houses *on a down*, just above Appleshaw, they bring from the down-farms in *Wiltshire* and *Hampshire*, where they are bred, the *South-Down* sheep: ewes to go away into the pasture and turnip countries to have lambs, wethers to be fatted and killed, and lambs (9 months old) to be kept to be sheep.—At both fairs there is supposed to be about *two hundred thousand sheep*. It was of some consequence to ascertain how the *price of these* had been affected by “*late panic*,” which ended the “*respite*” of 1822; or by the “*plethora of money*,” as loan-man, *BARING*, called it. I can assure this political Doctor, that there was no such “*plethora*” at *WEYHILL*, yesterday, where, while I viewed the *long faces* of the farmers, while I saw consciousness of ruin painted on their countenances, I could not help saying to myself, “the loan-

mongers think they are cunning; but, by —, they will never escape the ultimate consequences of this horrible ruin!”

—The prices, take them on a fair average, were, at both fairs, **JUST ABOUT ONE-HALF WHAT THEY WERE LAST YEAR.** So that my friend, Mr. *THWAITES* of the *Herald*, who had a lying Irish reporter at *Preston*, was rather *hasty*, about three months ago, when he told his *well-informed* readers, that, “those politicians were deceived, who had supposed that prices of farm-produce would fall in consequence of ‘*late panic*’ and the ‘*subsequent measures*’!”—There were *Dorsetshire* ewes that sold, last year, for 50s. a head. We could hear of none this year that exceeded 25s. And, only think of 25s. for one of these fine, large ewes, nearly fit to kill, and having *two lambs* in her, ready to be brought forth in, on an average, *six weeks time*! The average is *three lambs* to *two of these ewes*. In 1812 these ewes were from 55s. to 72s. each, at this same Appleshaw fair; and, in that year I bought *South-Down* ewes at 45s. each, just such as were, yesterday, sold for 18s.—Yet, the sheep and grass and all things, are the same in *real value*. What—

a false, what a deceptions, what an infamous thing, this paper-money system is!—However, it is a pleasure, it is real, it is great delight, it is boundless joy to me, to contemplate this infernal system in its hour of *wreck*: swag here: crack there: scroop this way: souse that way: and such a rattling and such a squalling: and the *parsons* and their *wives* looking so frightened, beginning, apparently, to think that the day of *judgment* is at hand! I wonder what master parson of SHARNCUT, whose church *can* contain *eight persons*, and master parson of DRAYCOT FOLIOT, who is, for want of a church, inducted under a *tent*, or temporary *booth*; I wonder what they think of South-Down lambs (9 months old) selling or 6 or 7 shillings each! I wonder what the BARINGS and the RICARDOS think of it. I wonder what those master parsons think of it, who are half-pay naval, or military officers, as well as master parsons of the church made by *law*. I wonder what the GAFFER GOOCHES, with their parsonships and military offices, think of it. I wonder what DADDY COKE and SUFFIELD think of it; and when, I wonder, do they mean to get into their *holes* and *barns* again to cry aloud against the “*roguery of reducing*

the interest of the Debt”; when I wonder, do these manly, these modest, these fair, these candid, these open, and, above all things, these SENSIBLE, fellows intend to assemble again, and to call all the “HOUSE OF QUIDENHAM” and the “HOUSE OF KILMAINHAM,” or *Kinsaleham*, or whatever it is, (for I really have forgotten); to call, I say, all these about them, in the holes and the barns, and then and there again make a formal and solemn protest against CORBETT and *against his roguish proposition for reducing the interest of the Debt*! NOW, I have these fellows on the hip; and, brave sport will I have with them before I have done.

Mr. BLOUNT, at whose house (7 miles from Weyhill) I am, went with me to the fair; and we took particular pains to ascertain the prices. We saw and spoke to, Mr. John Herbert, of Stoke (near Uphusband), who was *asking* 20s., and who did not expect to *get* it, for South-Down ewes, just such as he *sold*, last year (at this fair), for 36s.—Mr. JOLIFF, of Crux-Easton, was *asking* 16s. for just such ewes as he sold, last year (at this fair), for 32s.—Farmer HOLDWAY had sold “for *less than half*” his last year’s price.—A

farmer that I did not know, told us, that he had sold to a great sheep-dealer of the name of Smallpiece at the latter's own price! I asked him what that "*own price*" was; and he said that he was *ashamed to say*.—The horse-fair appeared to have *no business at all* going on; for, indeed, how were people to purchase horses, who had got only half-price for their sheep.

The sales of sheep, at this one fair (including Appleshaw), must have amounted, this year, to a *hundred and twenty or thirty thousand pounds less than last year!* Stick a pin there, master "*PROSPERITY*" ROBINSON, and turn back to it again anon! Then came the *horses*; not equal in amount to the sheep, but of great amount. Then comes the *CHEESE*, a very great article; and it will have a falling off, if you take quantity into view, in a still greater proportion.—The hops being a *monstrous crop*, their *price* is nothing to judge by.—But, *all is fallen*. Even *corn*, though, in many parts, all but the wheat and rye have totally failed, is, taking a quarter of each of the *six sorts* (wheat, rye, barley, oats, pease, and beans), *11s. 9d. cheaper*, upon the whole; that is to say, *11s. 9d. upon 25s.* And,

if the "*late panic*" had not come, it must and it would have been, and, according to the small bulk of the crop, it ought to have been, *150s. dearer*, instead of *11s. 9d. cheaper*. Yet, it is too dear, and far too dear, for the working people to eat! The masses, the assembled masses, must starve, if the price of bread be not reduced; that is to say, in Scotland and Ireland; for, *in England*, I hope, that the people will "*demand and insist*" (to use the language of the Bill of Rights) on a just and suitable provision, *agreeably to the law*; and, if they do not get it, I trust, that *law and justice* will, in due course, be done, and *strictly done*, upon those who refuse to make such provision.—Though, in time, the price of corn will come down without any repeal of the Corn Bill; and, though it would have come down now, if we had had a good crop, or an average crop; still the Corn Bill ought now to be repealed, because people must not be *starved* in waiting for the next crop; and the "*landowner's monopoly*," as the son of "John with the bright sword" calls it, ought to be swept away; and the sooner it is done, the better for the country. I know very well, that the landowners must *LOSE THEIR ESTATES*, if *such*

prices continue, and if the present taxes continue: I know this very well; and, I like it well; for, the landowners may cause the taxes to be taken off if they will. "Ah! wicked dog!" say they, "What, then, you would have us lose the half-pay and the pensions and sinecures which our children and other relations, or that we ourselves, are pocketing out of the taxes, which are squeezed, in great part, out of the labourer's skin and bone!" —Yes, upon my word, I would; but, if you prefer losing your estates, I have no great objection; for it is hard that, "in a free country," people should not have their choice of the different roads to the poor-house. — Here is the RUB: the vote-owners, the seat-owners, the big boroughmongers, have, directly and indirectly, so large a share of the loaves and fishes, that the share is, in point of clear income, equal to, and, in some cases, greater than, that from their estates; and, though this is not the case with the small fry of Jolterheads, they are so linked in with, and overawed by, the big ones, that they have all the same feeling; and that is, that, to cut off half-pay, pensions, sinecures, commissionerships (such as that of *Hobhouse's father*), army, and

the rest of the "good things," would be nearly as bad as to take away the estates, which, besides, are, in fact, in many instances, nearly gone (at least from the present holder) already, by the means of mortgage, annuity, rent-charge, settlement, jointure, or something or other.—Then, there are the parsons, who, with their keen noses, have smelled out, long enough ago, that, if any serious settlement should take place, they go to a certainty. In short, they know well how the whole nation (the interested excepted) feel towards them. They know well, that, were it not for their allies, it would soon be queer times with them.

Here, then, is the RUB. Here are the reasons why the taxes are not taken off! Some of these jolterheaded beasts were ready to cry, and I know one that did actually cry to a farmer (his tenant) in 1822. The tenant told him, that "Mr. Cobbett had been right about this matter." "What!" exclaimed he, "I hope you do not read Cobbett! He will ruin you, and he would ruin us all. He would introduce anarchy, confusion, and destruction of property!"—Oh, no, Jolterhead! There is no destruction of property. Matter,

the philosophers say, is *indestructible*. But, it is all easily *transferable*, as is well known to the base Jolterheads and the blaspheming Jews.—The former of these will, however, soon have the faint sweat upon them again. Their tenants will be ruined *first*: and, here what a foul robbery these landowners have committed, or, at least, enjoyed and pocketed the gain of! They have given their *silent assent* to the *one-pound note abolition Bill*. They knew well that this must reduce the price of farm produce *one-half*, or thereabouts; and yet, they were prepared to take and to insist on, and they do take and insist on, *as high rents as if that Bill had never been passed*! What dreadful ruin will ensue! How many, many farmers' families are now just preparing the way for their entrance into the poor-house! How many; certainly many a score farmers did I see at WEYHILL, yesterday, who came there as it were *to know their fate*; and who are gone home thoroughly convinced, that they shall, **AS FARMERS**, *never see Weyhill fair again*! When such a man, his mind impressed with such conviction, returns home and there beholds a family of children, half bred up, and in the notion that

they were *not* to be mere *working people*, what must be his feelings? Why, if he have been a *bawler against Jacobins and Radicals*; if he have *approved* of the Power-of-Imprisonment Bill and of Six-Acts; aye, if he *did not rejoice at Castlereagh's cutting his own throat*; if he have been a cruel *screw down of the labourers*, reducing them to skeletons; if he have been an officious detector of what are called "*poachers*," and have assisted in, or approved of, the hard punishments, inflicted on them: then, in *either* of these cases, I say, that his feelings, though they put the suicidal knife into his own hand, are *short of what he deserves*! I say this, and this I repeat with all the seriousness and solemnity with which a man can make a declaration; for, had it not been for these base and selfish and unfeeling wretches, the deeds of 1817 and 1819 and 1820 would never have been attempted. These hard and dastardly dogs, armed up to the teeth, were always ready to come forth to destroy, not only to revile, to decry, to belie, to calumniate in all sorts of ways, but, if necessary, *absolutely to cut the throats of*, those who had no object, and who could have no object, other than that of preventing a conti-

nuance in that course of measures, which have finally produced the ruin, and threaten to produce the absolute destruction, of these base, selfish, hard and dastardly dogs themselves. *Pity* them! Let them go for pity to those whom they have applauded and abetted.

The farmers, I mean the renters, will not now, as they did in 1819, *stand a good long emptying out*. They had, in 1822, lost nearly all. The present stock of the farms is not, in one half of the cases, *the property of the farmer*. It is *borrowed stock*; and the sweeping out will be very rapid. The notion, that the Ministers will "*do something*" is clung on to by all those who are deeply in debt, and all who have leases, or other engagements for time. These *believe* (because they *anxiously wish*) that the *paper-money*, by means of some sort or other, will be *put out again*; while the Ministers *believe* (because they *anxiously wish*) that the thing *can go on*, that they can continue to pay the interest of the debt, and meet all the rest of their spendings, without one-pound notes and without bank-restriction. Both parties will be deceived, and in the midst of the strife, that the dissipation of the delusion will

infallibly lead to, the whole **THING** is very likely to go to pieces; and that, too, **MIND**, tumbling into the hands, and placed at the mercy, of a people, the millions of whom have been fed upon less, to *four persons*, than what goes down the throat of *one single common soldier*! Please to **MIND** that, Messieurs the admirers of *select vestries*! You have *not done it*, Messieurs **STURGES BOURNE** and the **HAMPSHIRE PARSONS**! You *thought* you had! You *meaned well*; but, it was a *coup-manqué*, a missing of the mark, and that, too, as is frequently the case, by *over-shooting* it. The attempt will, however, produce its *just consequences* in the end; and those consequences will be of vast importance.

From **WEYHILL** I was shown yesterday, **THE WOOD**, in which took place the battle, in which was concerned poor **TURNER**, one of the young men, who was **HANGED** at Winchester, in the year 1822. There was another young man, named **SMITH**, who was, on account of another game-battle, **HANGED ON THE SAME GALLOWS**! And this for the preservation of the *game*, you will observe! This for the preservation of the *sports* of that aristocracy for whose sake, and

solely for whose sake, "SIR JAMES GRAHAM, of Netherby, "descendant of the Earls of Mon- "teith and of the seventh Earl of "Galloway, K. T." (being sure not to omit the K. T.); this HANGING of us is for the preservation of the SPORTS of that aristocracy, for the sake of whom this GRAHAM, this barefaced plagiarist, this bungling and yet impudent pamphleteer, would *sacrifice*, would reduce to beggary, according to his pamphlet, *three hundred thousand families* (making, doubtless, *two millions* of persons), in the middle rank of life! It is for the preservation, for upholding what he insolently calls the "*dignity*" of this *sporting aristocracy*, that he proposes to *rob all mortgagees*, all who have claims upon land! The feudal lords in France had, as Mr. YOUNG tells us, a right, when they came in, fatigued, from *hunting or shooting*, to cause the belly of one of their vassals to be *ripped up*, in order for the lord to *soak his feet in the bowels*! Sir JAMES GRAHAM of the bright sword does not propose to carry us back so far as this: he is willing to stop at taking away the money and the victuals of a very large part of the community; and, monstrous as it may seem, I will venture to say,

that there are scores of the Lord-Charles tribe, who think him *moderate to a fault*!

But, to return to the above-mentioned HANGING at Winchester (a thing *never to be forgotten by me*), JAMES TURNER, aged 23 years, was accused of assisting to kill ROBERT BAKER, game-keeper to THOMAS ASHETON SMITH, Esq., in the parish of South Tidworth; and CHARLES SMITH, aged 27 years, was accused of shooting at (not killing) ROBERT SNELGROVE, assistant game-keeper to LORD PALMERSTON (Secretary at War), at Broad-lands, in the parish of Rumsey. Poor CHARLES SMITH had better have been hunting after *shares* than after *hares*! Mines, however deep, he would have found less perilous than the pleasure grounds of Lord Palmerston!—I deem this HANGING at Winchester worthy of general attention, and particularly at this time, when the aristocracy near Andover, and one, at least, of the members for that town, of whom THIS VERY THOMAS ASHETON SMITH was, until lately, ONE, was, if the report in the Morning Chronicle (copied into the Register of the 7th instant) be correct, endeavouring, at the *late Meeting* at

Andover, to persuade people, that they (these Aristocrats) wished to keep up the price of corn **FOR THE SAKE OF THE LABOURERS**, whom Sir JOHN POLLEN (*Thomas Asheton Smith's* son's present colleague as member for Andover) called "**POOR DEVILS**," and who, he said, had "*hardly a rag to cover them*"! Oh! wished to *keep up the price of corn for the good* of the "poor devils of labourers who have "*hardly a rag to cover them*"! Amiable, feeling, tender-hearted souls! Cared not a straw about *rents*! Did not; Oh, no! did not care even about the farmers! It was only for the sake of the poor, naked devils of labourers, that the colleague of young *Thomas Asheton Smith* cared; it was only for those who were in the same rank of life as JAMES TURNER and CHARLES SMITH were, that these kind Andover Aristocrats cared! This was the only reason in the world for their wanting corn to sell at a high price! We often say, "*that beats every thing*;" but really, I think, that these professions of the Andover Aristocrats do "*beat every thing*." Ah! but, Sir JOHN POLLEN, these professions come *too late* in the day: the people are no longer to be deceived by such stupid at-

tempts at disguising hypocrisy. —However, the attempt shall do this: it shall make me repeat here that which I published on the Winchester **HANGING**, in the Register of the 6th of April, 1822. It made part of a "*Letter to Landlords*." Many boys have, since this article was published, grown up to the *age of thought*. Let them now read it; and I hope, that they will **REMEMBER IT WELL**.

I, last fall, addressed *ten letters* to you on the subject of the *Agricultural Report*. My object was to convince you, that you would be ruined; and, when I think of your general conduct towards the rest of the nation, and especially towards the labourers, I must say that I have great pleasure in seeing that my opinions are in a fair way of being verified to the full extent. I dislike the *Jews*; but, the *Jews* are not so inimical to the industrious classes of the country as you are. We should do a great deal better with the 'Squires from 'Change Alley, who, at any rate, have nothing of the ferocious and bloody in their characters. Engrafted upon your native want of feeling is the sort of military spirit of command that

you have acquired during the late war. You appeared, at the close of that war, to think that you had made a *conquest* of the rest of the nation for ever; and, if it had not been for the burdens which the war left behind it, there would have been no such thing as air, in England, for any one but a slave to breathe. The Bey of Tunis never talked to his subjects in language more insolent than you talked to the people of England. The DEBT, the blessed Debt, stood our friend, made you soften your tone, and will finally place you where you ought to be placed.

This is the last Letter that I shall ever take the trouble to address to you. In a short time, you will become much too insignificant to merit any particular notice; but, just in the way of *farewell*, and that there may be something on record to show what care has been taken of the partridges, pheasants, and hares, while the estates themselves have been suffered to slide away, I have resolved to address this one more Letter to you, which resolution has been occasioned by the recent *putting to death*, at Winchester, of two men denominated *Poachers*. This is a thing, which, whatever you may think of it, has not been passed over, [and is not to be

passed over, without full notice and ample record. The account of the matter, as it appeared in the public prints, was very short; but, the fact is such as never ought to be forgotten. And, while you are complaining of your "*distress*," I will endeavour to lay before the public that which will show, that the *law* has not been unmindful of even your *sports*. The time is approaching, when the people will have an opportunity of exercising their judgment as to what are called "game-laws;" when they will *look back* a little at what has been *done* for the sake of insuring *sport* to *landlords*. In short, landlords as well as labourers will *pass under review*. But, I must proceed to my subject, reserving reflections for a subsequent part of my letter.

The account, to which I have alluded, is this:

"HAMPSHIRE.—The Lent Assizes for this county concluded on Saturday morning. The Criminal Calendar contained 53 prisoners for trial, 16 of whom have been sentenced to suffer death, but two only of that number (*poachers*) were left by the Judges for execution, viz. James Turner, aged 28, for aiding and assisting in killing Robert Baker, gamekeeper to

“ *Thomas Asheton Smith, Esq.,*
 “ in the parish of South Tidworth,
 “ and Charles Smith, aged 27,
 “ for having wilfully and mali-
 “ ciously *shot at* Robert Snell-
 “ grove, assistant gamekeeper to
 “ *Lord Palmerston*, at Broad-
 “ lands, in the parish of Romsey,
 “ with intent to do him grievous
 “ bodily harm. The Judge (Bur-
 “ rough) observed, it became ne-
 “ cessary to *these cases*, that the
 “ *extreme sentence of the law*
 “ *should be inflicted*, to deter
 “ *others, as resistance to game-*
 “ *keepers was now arrived at an*
 “ *alarming height*, and many lives
 “ had been lost.”

The first thing to observe here is, that there were *sixteen* persons sentenced to suffer death; and that, the only persons actually put to death, were those who had been endeavouring to get at the hares, pheasants or partridges of Thomas Asheton Smith, and of our Secretary at War, Lord Palmerston. Whether the Judge, Burrough (who was long Chairman of the Quarter Sessions in Hampshire), uttered the words ascribed to him, or not, I cannot say; but, the words have gone forth in print, and the impression they are calculated to make is this: that it was necessary to put these two men to death, in order to deter

others from resisting gamekeepers. The putting of these men to death has excited a very deep feeling throughout the County of Hants; a feeling, very honourable to the people of that County, and very natural to the breast of every human being.

In this case there appears to have been a killing, in which Turner *assisted*; and Turner might, by possibility, have given the fatal blow; but in the case of Smith, there was no killing at all. There was a mere *shooting at*, with intention to do him bodily harm. This latter offence was not a crime for which men were put to death, even when there was no assault, or attempt at assault, on the part of the person shot at; this was not a crime punished with death, until that terrible act, brought in by the late Lord Ellenborough, was passed, and formed a part of our matchless Code; that Code which there is such a talk about *softening*; but which softening does not appear to have in view this Act, or any portion of the Game-Laws.

In order to form a just opinion with regard to the offence of these two men that have been hanged at Winchester, we must first consider the *motives* by which they were actuated, in committing the acts

of violence laid to their charge. For, it is the *intention*, and not the mere act, that constitutes the crime. To make an act murder, there must be *malice afore-thought*. The question, therefore, is, did these men attack, or were they the attacked? It seems to be clear that they were the attacked parties; for they are executed, according to this publication, to deter others from *resisting* gamekeepers!

I know very well that there is Law for this; but what I shall endeavour to show is, that the Law ought to be altered; that the people of Hampshire ought to petition for such alteration; and that if you, the Landlords, were wise, you would petition also, for an alteration, if not a total annihilation of that terrible Code, called the Game-Laws, which has been growing harder and harder, all the time that it ought to have been wearing away. It should never be forgotten, that, in order to make punishments efficient in the way of example, they must be thought just by the Community at large; and they will never be thought just if they aim at the protection of things belonging to one particular class of the Community, and, especially, if those very things be grudged to this

class by the Community in general. When punishments of this sort take place, they are looked upon as unnecessary, the sufferers are objects of pity, the common feeling of the Community is in their favour, instead of being against them; and it is those who cause the punishment, and not those who suffer it, who become objects of abhorrence.

Upon seeing two of our countrymen hanging upon a gallows, we naturally, and instantly, run back to the cause. First we find the fighting with gamekeepers; next we find that the men would have been transported if caught in or near a cover with guns, after dark; next we find that these trespassers are exposed to transportation because they are in pursuit, or supposed to be in pursuit, of partridges, pheasants or hares; and then, we ask, where is the foundation of a law to punish a man with transportation for being in pursuit of these animals? And where, indeed, is the foundation of the Law, to take from any man, be he who he may, the right of catching and using these animals? We know very well; we are instructed by mere feeling, that we have a right to live, to see and to move. Common sense tells us that there are some things which no

man can reasonably call his property; and though poachers (as they are called) do not read Blackstone's Commentaries, they know that such animals as are of a wild and untameable disposition, any man may seize upon and keep for his own use and pleasure. "All these things, so long as they remain in possession, every man has a right to enjoy without disturbance; but if once they escape from his custody, or he voluntarily abandons the use of them, they return to the common stock, and any man else has an equal right to seize and enjoy them afterwards."

In the Second Book and Twenty-sixth Chapter of Blackstone, the poacher might read as follows: "With regard likewise to wild animals, *all mankind had by the original grant of the Creator* a right to pursue and take away any fowl or insect of the air, any fish or inhabitant of the waters, and any beast or reptile of the field: and this natural right still continues in every individual, unless where it is restrained by the civil laws of the country. And when a man has once so seized them, they become, while living, his qualified property, or, if dead, are absolutely his own: so that to steal them, or otherwise in-

vade this property, is, according to the respective values, sometimes a criminal offence, sometimes only a civil injury."

Poachers do not read this; but that reason which is common to all mankind tells them that this is true, and tells them, also, *what to think*, of any positive law that is made to restrain them from this right granted by the Creator. Before I proceed further in commenting upon the case immediately before me, let me once more quote this English Judge, who wrote fifty years ago, when the Game Code was mild indeed, compared to the one of the present day. "Another violent alteration," says he, "of the English Constitution consisted in the depopulation of whole countries, for the purposes of the King's royal diversion; and subjecting both them, and all the ancient forests of the kingdom, to the unreasonable severities of forest laws imported from the continent, whereby the slaughter of a beast was made almost as penal as the death of a man. In the Saxon times, though no man was allowed to kill or chase the King's deer, yet he might start any game, pursue, and kill it upon his own estate. But the rigour of these new constitutions

"vested the sole property of all
 "the game in England in the
 "King alone; and no man was
 "entitled to disturb any fowl of
 "the air, or any beast of the
 "field, of such kinds as were
 "specially reserved for the royal
 "amusement of the Sovereign,
 "without express license from the
 "King, by a grant of a chase or
 "free warren: and those fran-
 "chises were granted as much
 "with a view to preserve the
 "breed of animals, as to indulge
 "the subject. From a similar
 "principle to which, though the
 "forest laws are now mitigated,
 "and by degrees grown entirely
 "obsolete, yet from this root has
 "sprung up a bastard slip, known
 "by the name of the game-law,
 "now arrived to and wantoning
 "in its highest vigour: both
 "founded upon the same unrea-
 "sonable notions of permanent
 "property in wild creatures; and
 "both productive of the same
 "tyranny to the commons: but
 "with this difference; that the
 "forest-laws established only one
 "mighty hunter throughout the
 "land, the game-laws have raised
 "a little Nimrod in every manor."

When this was written nothing
 was known of the present severity
 of the law. Judge Blackstone
 says that the Game Law was then

wantoning in its *highest vigour*;
 what, then, would he have said,
 if any one had proposed to
 make it *felony* to resist a Game-
 keeper? He calls it tyranny to
 the commons, as it existed in his
 time; what would he have said of
 the present Code; which, so far
 from being thought a thing to be
softened, is never so much as
 mentioned by those humane and
 gentle creatures, who are abso-
 lutely supporting a sort of repu-
 tation, and aiming at distinction
 in Society, in consequence of their
 incessant talk about softening the
 Criminal Code?

The Law may say what it will,
 but the feelings of mankind will
 never be in favour of this Code;
 and whenever it produces putting
 to death, it will, necessarily, ex-
 cite horror. It is impossible to
 make men believe that any par-
 ticular set of individuals, should
 have a permanent property in
 wild creatures. That the owner
 of land should have a quiet pos-
 session of it, is reasonable and
 right and necessary; it is also
 necessary, that he should have the
 power of inflicting pecuniary pu-
 nishment in a moderate degree
 upon such as trespass on his
 lands; but, his right can go no
 further according to reason. If
 the law give him ample compen-

sation for every damage that he sustains, in consequence of a trespass on his lands, what right has he to complain ?

The law authorizes the King, in case of invasion, or apprehended invasion, to call upon all his people to take up arms in defence of the country. The Militia Law compels every man, in his turn to become a soldier. And upon what ground is this ? There must be some reason for it, or else the law would be tyranny. The reason is, that every man has *rights* in the country to which he belongs ; and that, therefore, it is his duty to defend the country. Some rights, too, beyond that of merely living, merely that of breathing the air. And then, I should be glad to know, what rights an Englishman has, if the pursuit of even wild animals is to be the ground of transporting him from his country ? There is a sufficient punishment provided by the law of trespass ; quite sufficient means to keep men off your land altogether ; how can it be necessary, then, to have a law to transport them for coming upon your land ? No, it is not for coming upon the land, it is for coming after the wild animals, which nature and reason tells them, are as much theirs as they are yours.

It is impossible for the people not to contrast the treatment of these two men at Winchester with the treatment of some *gamekeepers* that have killed or maimed the persons they call Poachers ; and it is equally impossible for the people, when they see these two men hanging on a gallows, after being recommended to mercy, not to remember the almost instant pardon, given to the Exciseman, who was not recommended to mercy, and who was found guilty of wilful murder in the County of Sussex !

It is said, and, I believe truly, that there are more persons imprisoned in England for offences against the *game-laws*, than there are persons imprisoned in France (with more than twice the population) for *all sorts of offences put together*. When there was a loud outcry against the cruelties committed on the *priests* and the *seigneurs*, by the people of France, ARTHUR YOUNG bade them *remember* the cruelties committed on the people by the *game-laws*, and to bear in mind how many had been made *galley-slaves* for *having killed, or tried to kill, partridges, pheasants and hares* !

However, I am aware that it is quite useless to address observa-

tions of this sort to you. I am quite aware of that; and yet, there are circumstances, in your present situation, which, one would think, ought to make you *not very gay* upon the hanging of the two men at Winchester. It delights me, I assure you, to see the situation that you are in; and I shall, therefore, now, once more, and for the last time, address you upon that subject.

We all remember how haughty, how insolent, you have been. We all bear in mind your conduct for the last thirty-five years; and the feeling of pleasure at your present state is as general as it is just. In my *Ten Letters* to you, I told you that you would lose your estates. Those of you who have any capacity except that which is necessary to enable you to kill wild animals, see this now, as clearly as I do; and yet you evince no intention to change your courses. You hang on with unrelenting grasp; and cry "*pauper*" and "*poacher*" and "*radical*" and "*lower orders*" with as much insolence as ever! It is always thus: men like you may be convinced of error; but they never change their conduct. They never become just because they are convinced that they have been unjust: they must have a great

deal more than that conviction to make them just.

Such was what I then addressed to the Landlords. How well it fits the *present* time! They are just in the same sort of *mess*, now, that they were in, in 1822. But, there is this most important difference, that the paper-money cannot *now* be put out, in a quantity sufficient to save them, without producing not only a "*late panic*," worse than the last, but, in all probability, a total blowing up of the *whole system*, game-laws, new-trespass laws, treadmill, Sunday tolls, six-acts, sun-set and sun-rise laws, apple-felony laws, select-vestry laws, and all the whole **THING**, root and trunk and branch! Aye, not sparing, perhaps, even the tent, or booth, of *induction*, at Draycot Foliot! Good Lord! How should we be able to live without game-laws! And treadmills, then? And Sunday-tolls? How should we get on without pensions, sinecures, tithes and the other "*glorious institutions*" of this "*mighty empire*"? Let us turn, however, from the thought; but, bearing this in mind, if you please, Messieurs the *game-people*; that if, no matter in what shape and under what pretence;

if, I tell you, *paper be put out again*, sufficient to raise the price of a South Down ewe to the last year's mark, *the whole system goes to atoms*. I tell you that; mind it; and look sharp about you, O ye fat parsons; for *tithes* and *half-pay* will, be you assured, never, from that day, again go in company into parson's pocket.

In this North of Hampshire, as every where else, the churches and all other things, exhibit indubitable marks of decay. There are along under the North side of, that chain of hills, which divide Hampshire from Berkshire, in this part, taking into Hampshire about two or three miles wide of the low ground along under the chain, *eleven churches* along in a string, in about *fifteen miles*, the *chancels* of which would contain a great many more than all the inhabitants, men, women, and children, sitting at their ease with plenty of room. How should this be otherwise, when, in the parish of Burghclere, one single farmer holds by lease, under LORD CARNARVON, as one farm, the lands that men, now living, can remember to have formed *fourteen farms*, bringing up, in a respectable way, *fourteen families*. In some instances these small farm-

houses and homesteads are completely gone; in others the buildings remain, but in a tumble-down state; in others the house is gone, leaving the barn for use as a barn or as a cattle-shed; in others, the outbuildings are gone, and the house, with rotten thatch, broken windows, rotten door-sills, and all threatening to fall, remains as the dwelling of a half-starved and ragged family of labourers, the grand-children, perhaps, of the decent family of small farmers that formerly lived happily in this very house. This, with few exceptions, is the case all over England; and, if we duly consider the nature and tendency of the hellish system of taxing, of funding, and of paper-money, *it must be so*. Then, in this very parish of BURGHCLERE, there was, until a few months ago, a famous cock-parson, the "Honourable and Reverend" GEORGE HERBERT, who had grafted the *parson* upon the *soldier*, and the *justice* upon the parson; for, he died, a little while ago, a *half-pay officer in the army*, *rector of two parishes*, and *chairman of the quarter sessions of the county of Hants!* Mr. HONE gave us, in his memorable "House that Jack built," a portrait of the "*Clerical Magistrate*." Could not he, or some-

body else, give us a portrait of the *military* and of the *naval parson*? For, such are to be found all over the kingdom. Wherever I go, I hear [of] them. And yet, there sits Burdett, and even Sir Bobby of the Borough, and say not a word upon the subject! This is the case: the King dismissed SIR BOBBY from the half-pay list, scratched his name out, turned him off, stopped his pay. Sir Bobby complained, alleging, that the half-pay was *a reward for past services*. No, no, said the Ministers: *it is a retaining fee for future services*. Now, the law is, and the Parliament declared, in the case of *parson Horne Tooke*, that *once a parson always a parson*, and that a parson can not, of course, again serve as an officer under the crown. Yet these military and naval parsons have "*a retaining fee for future military and naval services*"! Never was so barefaced a thing before heard of in the world. And yet there sits SIR BOBBY, stripped of his "*retaining fee*," and says not a word about the matter; and there sit the *big Whigs*, who gave Sir Bobby the subscription, having sons, brothers, and other relations, military and naval parsons, and the *big Whigs*, of course, bid Sir Bobby (albeit given enough to

twattle) hold his tongue upon the subject; and there sit Mr. WETHERSPOON (I think it is), and the rest of Sir Bobby's Rump, toasting "*the independence of the Borough and its member*"!—"That's our case," as the lawyers say: match it, if you can, devil, in all your roamings up and down throughout the earth! I have often been thinking, and, indeed, expecting, to see Sir Bobby *turn parson himself*, as the likeliest way to get back his half-pay. If he should have "*a call*," I do hope we shall have him for parson at *Kensington*; and, as an inducement, I promise him, that I will give him a good thumping Easter-offering.

In former RIDES, and especially in 1821 and 1822, I described very fully, this part of Hampshire. The land is a chalk bottom, with a bed of reddish, stiff loam, full of flints, at top. In those parts where the bed of loam and flints is *deep*, the land is *arable or woods*: where the bed of loam and flints is so shallow as to let the plough down to the chalk, the surface is *downs*. In the deep and long valleys, where there is constantly, or occasionally, a stream of water, the top soil is blackish, and the surface *meadows*. This has been the dis-

tribution from all antiquity, except that, in ancient times, part of that which is now *downs* and *woods* was *corn-land*, as we know from the *marks of the plough*. And yet the Scotch fellows would persuade us, that there were *scarcely any inhabitants in England* before it had the unspeakable happiness to be united to that fertile, warm, and hospitable country, where the people are so well off, that they are *above* having poor-rates!—The tops of the hills here are as good *corn-land* as any other part; and it is all excellent *corn-land*, and the fields and woods singularly beautiful. Never was there what may be called a more *hilly* country, and *all in use*. Coming from Burghclere, you come up nearly *a mile of steep hill*, from the top of which you can see all over the country, even to the Isle of Wight; to your right a great part of Wiltshire; into Surrey on your left; and, turning round, you see, lying below you, the whole of Berkshire, great part of Oxfordshire, and part of Gloucestershire. This chain of lofty hills was a great favourite with Kings and rulers in ancient times. At HIGHCLERE, at COMBE, and at other places, there are remains of great encampments, or fortifications; and,

KINGSCLERE was a residence of the *Saxon Kings*, and continued to be a royal residence long after the Norman Kings came. KING JOHN, when residing at KINGSCLERE, founded one of the charities which still exist in the town of Newbury, which is but a few miles from *Kingsclere*.—From the top of this lofty chain, you come to *Uphusband* (or the *Upper Hurstbourne*) over *two miles, or more*, of ground, descending in the way that the body of a snake descends (when he is going fast) from the high part, near the head, down to the tail; that is to say, over a series of hill and dell, but the dell part going constantly on increasing upon the hilly part, till you come down to this village; and then you, continuing on (southward) towards Andover, go up, directly, half a mile of hill so steep, as to make it very difficult for an ordinary team, with a load, to take that load up it. So this *Up-hurstbourne* (called so because *higher up the valley* than the other *Hurstbournes*), the flat part of the road to which, from the north, comes in between two side-hills, is in as narrow and deep a dell as any place that I ever saw. The houses of the village are, in great part, scattered about, and are amongst very lofty

and fine trees; and, from many, many points round about, from the hilly fields, now covered with the *young wheat*, or with scarcely less beautiful *sainfoin*, the village is a sight worth going many miles to see. The lands, too, are pretty beyond description. These chains of hills make, below them, an endless number of lower hills, of varying shapes and sizes and aspects and of relative state as to each other; while the surface presents, in the size and form of the fields, in the woods, the hedge-rows, the *sainfoin*, the *young wheat*, the turnips, the tares, the fallows, the sheep-folds and the flocks, and, at every turn of your head, a fresh and different set of these; this surface all together presents that which I, at any rate, could look at with pleasure for ever. Not a sort of country that I like so well as when there are *downs* and a *broad valley* and *more of meadow*; but, a sort of country that I like next to that; for, here, as there, there are no ditches, no water-furrows, no dirt, and *never any drought* to cause inconvenience. The *chalk* is at bottom, and it takes care of all. The crops of wheat have been very good here this year, and those of barley not very bad. The *sainfoin* has given a fine crop of the finest sort of hay in the

world, and, this year, without a drop of wet.

I wish, that, in speaking of this pretty village (which I always return to with additional pleasure), I could give a *good account* of the state of *those, without whose labour there would be neither corn nor sainfoin nor sheep*. I regret to say, that my account of this matter, if I gave it truly, must be a dismal account indeed! For, I have, in no part of England, seen the labouring people so badly off as they are here. This has made so much impression on me, that I shall enter fully into the matter with names, dates, and all the particulars, in the IVth Number of the "**POOR MAN'S FRIEND**." This is one of the great purposes for which I take these "*Rides*." I am persuaded, that, before the day shall come, when my labours must cease, *I shall have mended the meals of millions*. I may over-rate the effects of my endeavours; but, this being my persuasion, I should be guilty of a great neglect of duty, were I not to use those endeavours.

ANDOVER, SUNDAY, 15th OCTOBER.—I went to Weyhill, yesterday, to see the *close* of the *hop* and of the *cheese* fair; for, after the *sheep*, the *e* are the principal articles.—The crop of hops has

been, in parts where they are grown, unusually large and of super - excellent quality. The average price of the *Farnham hops* has been, as nearly as I can ascertain, *seven pounds* for a *hundred weight*; that of *Kentish hops*, *five pounds*, and that of the Hampshire and Surrey hops (other than those of Farnham), about *five pounds* also. The prices are, considering the great weight of the crop, very good; but, if it had not been for the effects of "*late panic*" (proceeding, as *BARING* said, from a "*plethora of money*"), these prices would have been a full third, if not nearly one half, higher; for, though the crop has been so large and so good, there was *hardly any stock on hand*; the country was almost wholly without hops.—As to *cheese*, the price, considering the quantity, has been, *not one half so high as it was last year*. The fall in the positive price has been about 20 per cent, and the quantity made in 1826 has not been above two-thirds as great as that made in 1825. So that, here is a fall of *one-half* in real relative price; that is to say, the farmer, while he has the same rent to pay that he paid last year, has only half as much money to receive for cheese, as he received for cheese last

year; and observe, on some farms, *cheese* is almost the only saleable produce.

After the fair was over, yesterday, I came down from the Hill (3 miles) to this town of ANDOVER; which has, within the last 20 days, been *more talked of*, in other parts of the kingdom, than it ever was before from the creation of the world to the beginning of those 20 days. The THOMAS ASHETON SMITHS and the SIR JOHN POLLENS, famous as they have been under the banners of the *Old Navy Purser*, George Rose, and his successors, have never, even since the death of poor TURNER, been half so famous, they and this CORPORATION, whom they represent, as they have been since the MEETING which they held here, which ended in their defeat and confusion, pointing them out as worthy of that appellation of "*POOR DEVILS*," which POLLEN thought proper to give to those labourers, without whose toil his estate would not be worth a single farthing.

Having laid my plan to sleep at Andover last night, I went with two Farnham friends, Messrs. Knowles and West, to dine at the ordinary at the GEORGE INN, which is kept by one SUTTON, a rich old fellow, who wore

a round-skirted sleeved fustian waistcoat, with a dirty white apron tied round his middle, and with *no coat on*; having a look the *eagerest* and the *sharpest*, that I ever saw in any set of features in my whole lifetime; having an air of authority and of mastership, which to a stranger, as I was, seemed quite incompatible with the meanness of his dress and the vulgarity of his manners; and, there being, visible to every beholder, constantly going on in him, a pretty even contest between the servility of avarice and the insolence of wealth. A great part of the farmers and other fair-people having gone off home, we found preparations made for dining only about ten people. But, after we sat down, and it was seen that we designed to dine, guests came in apace, the preparations were augmented, and as many, as could dine, came and dined with us.—

After the dinner was over, the room became fuller and fuller; guests came in from the other inns, where they had been dining, till, at last, the room became as full as possible in every part, the door being opened, the door-way blocked up, and the stairs, leading to the room, crammed from bottom to top.—In this state of things, Mr. Knowles, who was our chair-

man, gave *my health*, which, of course, was followed by a *speech*; and, as the reader will readily suppose, to have an opportunity of making a speech, was the main motive for my going to dine at *an inn*, at any hour, and especially at *seven o'clock* at night. In this speech, I, after descanting on the present devastating ruin and on those successive acts of the Ministers, and the parliament, by which such ruin had been produced; after remarking on the shuffling, the tricks, the contrivances from 1797 up to last March, I proceeded to offer to the company *my reasons* for believing, that no attempt would be made to relieve the farmers and others, by *putting out the paper-money again, as in 1822*, or, by a *bank-restriction*. Just as I was stating these my reasons on a prospective matter of such deep interest to my hearers, amongst whom were landowners, landrenters, cattle and sheep dealers, hop and cheese producers and merchants, and even one, two or more, *country bankers*; just as I was engaged in stating *my reasons* for my opinion on a matter of such vital importance to the parties present, who were all listening to me with the greatest attention; just at this time, a *noise* was heard, and a sort

of row was taking place, in the passage, the cause of which was, upon inquiry, found to be no less a personage than our landlord, our host, SUTTON, who, it appeared, finding that my speech-making had cut off, or, at least, suspended, all intercourse between the dining, now become a drinking room and the bar; who, finding that I had been the cause of a great "restriction in the exchange" of our money for his "neat" "genuine" commodities down stairs, and being, apparently, an ardent admirer of the "liberal" system of "*free trade*"; who, finding, in short, or, rather, supposing, that, if my tongue were not stopped from running, his taps would be, had, though an old man, fought, or, at least, forced his way up the thronged stairs and through the passage and doorway, into the room, and was (with what breath the struggle had left him) beginning to bawl out to me, when some one called to him, and told him that he was causing an *interruption*, to which he answered, that *that was what he had come to do!* And then he went on to say, in so many words, that my speech *injured his sale of liquor!*

The disgust and abhorrence, which such conduct could not fail

to excite, produced, at first, a desire to quit the room and the house, and even a proposition to that effect. But, after a minute or so, to reflect, the company resolved not to quit the room, but to turn him out of it who had caused the interruption; and the old fellow, finding himself *tackled*, saved the labour of shoving, or kicking, him out of the room, by retreating out of the door-way with all the activity of which he was master. After this I proceeded with my speech-making; and, this being ended, the great business of the evening, namely, drinking, smoking, and singing, was about to be proceeded in by a company, who had just closed an arduous and anxious week, who had before them a Sunday morning to sleep in, and whose wives were, for the far greater part, at a convenient distance. An assemblage of circumstances, more auspicious to "*free trade*" in the "*neat*" and "*genuine*," has seldom occurred? But, now behold, the old fustian-jacketed fellow, whose *head was, I think, powdered*, took it into that head not only to lay "*restrictions*" upon trade, but to impose an *absolute embargo*; cut off entirely all supplies whatever from his bar to the room, *as long as I remained*

in that room. A message to this effect, from the old fustian man, having been, through the waiter, communicated to Mr. KNOWLES, and he having communicated it to the company, I addressed the company in nearly these words: "Gentlemen, born and bred, as you know I was, on the borders of this county, and fond, as I am, of bacon, *Hampshire hogs* have, with me, always been objects of admiration rather than of contempt; but that which has just happened here, induces me to observe, that this feeling of mine has been confined to hogs of *four legs*. For my part, I like your company too well to quit it. I have paid this fellow **SIX SHILLINGS** for the wing of a fowl, a bit of bread, and a pint of small beer. I have a right to sit here; I want no drink, and those who do, being refused it here, have a right to send to other houses for it, and to drink it here."

However, Mammon soon got the upper hand down stairs, all the fondness for "*free trade*" returned, and up came the old fustian-jacketed fellow, bringing pipes, tobacco, wine, grog, sling, and seeming to be as pleased as if he had just sprung a mine of gold! Nay, he, soon after this,

came into the room with two gentlemen, who had come to him to ask where I was. He actually came up to me, making me a bow, and, telling me that those gentlemen wished to be introduced to me, he, with a *fawning look*, laid his hand upon my knee! "Take away your paw," said I, and, shaking the gentlemen by the hand, I said, "I am happy to see you, gentlemen, even though introduced by this fellow."—Things now proceeded without interruption; songs, toasts, and speeches filled up the time, until *half-past two o'clock this morning*, though in the house of a landlord who receives the sacrament, but who, from his manifestly ardent attachment to the "*liberal principles*" of "*free trade*," would, I have no doubt, have suffered us, if we could have found money and throats and stomachs, to sit and sing and talk and drink until two o'clock of a Sunday afternoon instead of two o'clock of a Sunday morning. It was not *politics*; it was not *personal dislike to me*; for the fellow knew nothing of me. It was, as I told the company, just this: he looked upon their bodies as so many gutters to drain off the contents of his taps, and upon their purses as so many small heaps from

which to take the means of augmenting his great one; and, finding that I had been, no matter how, the cause of suspending this work of "*reciprocity*," he wanted, and no matter how, to restore the reciprocal system to motion. All that I have to add is this: that the next time this old sharp-looking fellow gets SIX SHILLINGS from me, for a dinner, he shall, if he choose, *cook me*, in any manner that he likes, and season me with hand so unsparing as to produce in the feeders thirst unquenchable.

To-morrow morning we set off for the *New Forest*; and, indeed, we have lounged about here long enough. But, as some apology, I have to state, that, while I have been in a sort of waiting upon this *great fair*, where one hears, sees and learns so much, I have been writing No. IV. of the "*POOR MAN'S FRIEND*," which, PRICE TWOPENCE, is published *once a month*.

I see, in the London newspapers, accounts of *dispatches from Canning*! I thought, that he went solely "*on a party of pleasure*"! So, the "*dispatches*" come to tell the King how the pleasure party gets on! No: what he is gone to Paris for, is, to endeavour to prevent the "*Holy*

Allies" from doing any thing which shall sink the English Government in the eyes of the world, and *thereby favour the radicals*, who are enemies of all "*regular Government*," and whose success in England *would revive republicanism in France*. This is my opinion. The subject, if I be right in my opinion, was *too ticklish to be committed to paper*: GRENVILLE LEVISON GOWER (for that is the man that is now *Lord Granville*) was, perhaps, not thought quite a match for the French as a *talker*; and, therefore, the CAPTAIN OF ETON, who, in 1817, said, that the "*ever-living luminary of British Prosperity*" was only hidden behind "*a cloud*;" and who, in 1819, said, that "*Peel's Bill had set the currency question at rest for ever*"; therefore the profound Captain is gone over to see what he can do.

But, Captain, a word in your ear: *we do not care for the Bourbons any more than we do for you!* My real opinion is, that there is nothing that can put England to rights, that *will not shake the Bourbon Government*. This is my opinion; but, I defy the Bourbons to save, or to assist in saving, the present system in England, unless they and their

friends will subscribe and *pay off your debt for you*, Captain of toad-eating and nonsensical and shoe-licking Eton! Let them pay off your debt for you, Captain; let the Bourbons and their allies do that; or, they cannot save you; no, nor can they help you, even in the smallest degree.

RUMSEY (HAMPSHIRE), MONDAY NOON, 16th OCT.—Like a very great fool, I, out of senseless complaisance, waited, this morning, to breakfast with the friends, at whose house we slept last night, at Andover. We thus lost two hours of dry weather, and have been justly punished by about an hour's ride in the rain. I settled on LYNDHURST as the place to lodge at to-night; so we are here, feeding our horses, drying our clothes, and writing the account of our journey. We came, as much as possible, all the way through the villages, and, almost all the way, avoided the turnpike-roads. From ANDOVER to STOCKBRIDGE (about seven or eight miles) is, for the greatest part, an open *corn* and *sheep* country, a considerable portion of the land being downs. The wheat and rye and vetch and sainfoin fields look beautiful here; and, during the whole of the way from Andover to Rumsey, the *early turnips* of

both kinds are not bad, and the stubble turnips very promising. The downs are green as meadows usually are in April. The grass is most abundant in all situations, where grass grows.—From Stockbridge to Rumsey we came nearly by the river side, and had to cross the river several times.—This the RIVER TESTE, which, as I described, in my Ride of last November, begins at UPHUSBAND, by springs, bubbling up, in *March*, out of the bed of that deep valley. It is, at first, a BOURNE, that is to say, a stream that runs only a part of the year, and is, the rest of the year, as dry as a road. About 5 miles from this periodical source, it becomes a stream all the year round. After winding about between the chalk hills, for many miles, first in a general direction towards the south-east, and then in a similar direction towards the south-west and south, it is joined by the little stream, that rises just above, and that passes through, the town of Andover. It is, after this, joined by several other little streams, with names; and here, at Rumsey, it is a large and very fine river, famous, all the way down, for trout and eels, and both of the finest quality.

LYNDHURST (NEW FOREST) MON-

DAY EVENING, 16th OCTOBER.—I have just time, before I go to bed, to observe, that we arrived here, about 4 o'clock, over about 10 or 11 miles of the best road in the world, having a choice too, for the great part of the way, between these smooth roads and green sward.—Just as we came out of RUMSEY (or Romsey), and crossed our RIVER TESTE once more, we saw to our left, the sort of park, called *Broad-Lands*, where poor CHARLES SMITH, who (as mentioned above) was HANGED for shooting at (not killing) one SNELGROVE, an assistant game keeper of LORD PALMERSTON, who was then our *Secretary at War*, and who is in that office, I believe, now, though he is now better known as a DIRECTOR OF THE GRAND MINING JOINT-STOCK COMPANY, which shows the great industry of this Noble and “Right Honourable person,” and also the great scope and the various nature and tendency of his talents. What would our old fathers of the “dark-ages” have

said, if they had been told, that their descendants would, at last, become so enlightened, as to enable Jews and loan-jobbers, to take away noblemen's estates by mere “*watching the turn of the market*,” and to cause members, or, at least, one Member, of that “most Honourable, Noble, and Reverend Assembly,” the King's PRIVY COUNCIL, in which he himself sits: so enlightened, I say, as to cause one of this “most Honourable and Reverend body” to become a *Director in a mining speculation*! How one pities our poor, “dark-age, bigotted” ancestors, who would, I dare say, have been as ready to hang a man for proposing such a “liberal” system as this, as they would have been to hang him for shooting at (not killing) an assistant game-keeper! Poor old fellows! How much they lost by not living in our enlightened times!—I am here close by the Old Purser's son, GEORGE ROSE'S!

WM. COBBETT.

MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending October 6.

Per Quarter.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat ..	54	9	Rye	39	2
Barley ..	34	4	Beans . . .	50	10
Oats	26	11	Pease . . .	52	1

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended October 6.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	43,596	Rye	300
Barley ..	31,061	Beans . . .	1,674
Oats . . .	9,095	Pease	840

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, October 7.

	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.		s.	d.
Wheat..	5,035	for 14,425	16	11	Average,	56	10
Barley..	3,218	.. 6,159	16	5	.....	38	3
Oats..	3,455	.. 4,990	11	11	.....	28	10
Rye....	85	.. 162	9	0	.....	38	2
Beans ..	996	.. 2,345	19	0	.....	48	6
Pease ..	648	.. 1,808	15	0	.....	55	9

Friday, Oct. 13.—The supplies of all descriptions of Grain this week are tolerably good. The Wheat trade continues very dull at Monday's prices. Barley fully supports last quotations. In Beans and Pease no alteration. The Factors hold Oats firmly, at the same terms as on Monday, but the trade is very heavy. The sale of Flour is confined almost entirely to the best marks.

Monday, Oct. 16.—The report of arrivals of Grain that came in last

week is good, and there was another considerable quantity of Flour. This morning the market is fairly supplied with Wheat, Barley, Beans, and Pease, from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, and several vessels with Oats from abroad. The Millers purchase fine dry samples of Wheat with readiness, at the terms of last Monday; but there are many parcels of thin Wheat, which are almost totally neglected; the prices of last week may, therefore, be considered as obtainable only for prime qualities.

The best Malting Barley has sold at 1s. per quarter advance, and good Grinding parcels are also 1s. per quarter dearer, but there is very little doing in thin qualities. Beans meet a slow sale, at last quotations. Boiling and Grey Pease are dull, and rather lower. Oats, on Wednesday and Friday last, met a heavy sale, and appeared inclinable to be lower; but to-day the terms of this day se'n-night have been fully supported. The top price of Flour was last week unanimously settled at 5s. per sack reduction, at which there is a slow sale.

Price on board Ship as under.

Flour, per sack	.....	45s.	—	50s.
— Seconds	.....	40s.	—	43s.
— North Country	..	40s.	—	42s.

COAL MARKET, Oct. 13.

Ships at Market. Ships sold. Price.

67 Newcastle	32½	..	26s. 6d. to	36s. 0d.
66 Sunderland	16	..	26s. 6d.	— 36s. 0d.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from Oct. 9 to Oct. 14, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	4,250	Tares	166
Barley ..	4,051	Linseed ..	3,143
Malt	3,276	Rapeseed .	1,600
Oats	4,285	Brank ..	—
Beans . . .	885	Mustard ..	29
Flour	10,119	Flax	—
Rye	660	Hemp ...	—
Pease	1,460	Seeds ...	200

Foreign. — Wheat, 8,672; Barley, 870; Oats, 24,100; and Beans, 527 quarters.

HOPS.

Price of Hops, per Cwt. in the Borough.

Monday, Oct. 16.—Our market this week is 4s. to 5s. dearer, for both Sussex and Kent, and the planters hold firmly for higher prices. — Currency, Sussex, 67s. to 76s. Kent, 74s. to 95s.

Another Account from the Borough:

Oct. 16.—Owing to the Fair at Weyhill finishing so well, our market has advanced several shillings for all descriptions of Hops, with considerable demand, and a short supply. Currency as under:—Kent pockets from 73s. to 100s.; ditto bags 65s. to 85s.; Sussex pockets 65s. to 76s.—Duty called 285,000*l*.

Weyhill Hop Fair.—The accounts, by post, this morning, state that a great deal of business was done on Saturday, at Weyhill, at advanced prices. — Farnhams fetched freely 7*l*. 15s. to 8*l*. It is stated that the Hop Trade, in the Borough, is this morning higher by 8s. to 10s. than last Monday.

Maidstone, Oct. 12. — This day we understand finishes the Hop picking in this neighbourhood, and we can safely add, of a produce far exceeding what was expected. The very low prices which the necessitous

Planters have been compelled to submit to, appear to have had the effect of bringing the buyers more into the market. Many sales have been made within these few days, and our Planters anticipate, at our Fair, next Tuesday, much higher prices, and a great deal of business.

Worcester, Oct. 11.—On Saturday 2521 pockets were weighed; an advance took place in the prices, of 2s. to 3s. The average was 74s. to 84s.

Stourport, Oct. 4.—In our market this day, 875 pockets of New Hops were weighed; prices from 65s. to 80s. per cwt.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, Oct. 16.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	to 5	0
Mutton	3	8	— 4	6
Veal	4	6	— 5	0
Pork	4	6	— 5	4

Beasts	3,131	Sheep	22,670
Calves	200	Pigs	150

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	to 4	6
Mutton	3	0	— 4	0
Veal	3	4	— 5	4
Pork	3	4	— 5	4

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	0	to 4	4
Mutton	3	4	— 4	0
Veal	4	4	— 5	4
Pork	4	0	— 5	4

Monday, Oct. 16.—The arrivals from Ireland last week were 16,103 skins of Butter, and 623 bales of Bacon; and from Foreign Ports, 48 casks of Butter.

POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS, per Cwt.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Ware	3	4	to	4 10
Middlings.....	2	0	—	0 0
Chats	2	0	—	0 0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0 0

Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d. per bush.

BOROUGH, per Ton.

	l.	s.	l.	s.
Ware	3	0	to	4 10
Middlings.....	2	0	—	2 5
Chats.....	2	0	—	0 0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0 0

HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....80s. to 105s.

Straw...30s. to 36s.

Clover. 100s. to 126s.

St. James's.—Hay.... 70s. to 110s.

Straw .. 30s. to 36s.

Clover..100s. to 130s.

Whitechapel.—Hay.... 84s. to 130s.

Straw...34s. to 38s.

Clover..84s. to 130s.

COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.			Beans.			Pease.		
	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.	s.	to s.	d.
Aylesbury	52	60	0	38	40	0	32	35	0	50	59	0	0	0	0
Banbury	54	56	0	39	41	0	33	40	0	52	60	0	0	0	0
Basingstoke	48	60	0	32	37	0	27	31	0	50	55	0	0	0	0
Bridport.....	48	56	0	34	40	0	28	32	0	54	56	0	0	0	0
Chelmsford.....	50	66	0	36	40	0	28	34	0	40	48	0	50	56	0
Derby.....	48	64	0	36	47	0	27	36	0	50	56	0	0	0	0
Devizes.....	50	62	0	36	42	0	24	36	0	50	60	0	0	0	0
Dorchester.....	46	60	0	32	36	0	30	35	0	50	58	0	0	0	0
Exeter.....	52	64	0	38	40	0	28	32	0	56	60	0	0	0	0
Eye	46	54	0	36	39	0	26	32	0	48	52	0	46	48	0
Guildford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henley	50	64	0	30	42	0	25	32	0	50	56	0	48	54	0
Horncastle.....	50	55	0	38	42	0	28	30	0	50	52	0	0	0	0
Hungerford.....	50	62	0	28	36	0	25	37	0	53	59	0	0	0	0
Lewes	52	64	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newbury	44	62	0	31	38	0	26	37	0	52	60	0	54	56	0
Northampton....	52	57	0	37	40	0	30	33	0	52	55	0	0	0	0
Nottingham	57	0	0	45	0	0	35	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0
Reading	52	67	0	36	40	0	24	36	0	52	58	0	54	58	0
Stamford.....	50	56	0	35	41	0	23	39	0	49	60	0	0	0	0
Stowmarket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swansea	66	0	0	46	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truro	60	0	0	37	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uxbridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warminster.....	44	57	0	33	38	0	32	42	0	50	64	0	0	0	0
Winchester.....	0	55	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dalkeith*	27	36	0	24	30	0	23	31	0	26	30	0	26	30	0
Haddington*	30	35	0	16	21	0	15	21	0	24	31	0	23	29	0

* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the *boll*.—The Scotch *boll* for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The *boll* of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English *quarter*.

Liverpool, Oct. 10.—The importations of Grain since Tuesday last have been so considerable, as to have produced, during the week past, a stagnation in the demand for Wheat, although at a decline of 2d. per 70lbs. The demand for Oats was considerable, yet, eventually, that was superseded by the large supplies, and a reduction of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1d. per 45lbs. was ultimately submitted to.—At this day's market, which was but poorly attended, sales of Wheat and Oats were very moderate, at about the decline above noted. Every other article of the trade partook of the depression, but without material alteration in value from the prices quoted on this day se'nnight.

Imported into Liverpool, from the 3d to the 9th October, 1826, inclusive:—Wheat, 21,279; Barley, 3,095; Oats, 32,328; Malt, 172; Beans, 103; Pease, 15 quarters. Flour, 1,713 sacks, per 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 1,247 packs, per 240 lbs. American Flour, 1,625 barrels.

Guildford, Oct. 14.—Our Wheat market was this day unusually dull, and lower prices were submitted to: in other things scarcely any variation was observable.—Wheat, old, 13l. 10s. to 17l.; ditto, new, for mealings, 13l. to 15l. 15s. per load. Rye, 50s. to 54s.; Barley, 34s. to 39s.; Oats, 26s. to 33s.; Beans, 52s. to 56s.; and Pease, grey, 54s. to 58s. per quarter. Tares, 14s. per bushel.

Norwich, Oct. 14.—The supply of Wheat to this day's market was exceedingly short, and prices 2s. per quarter lower. Red sold from 48s. to 54s.; White to 56s. Of Barley the supply was good, and quite in demand; prices from 28s. to 39s.; Oats, 22s. to 30s.; Beans, 38s. to 42s.; Pease, 40s. to 43s.; Boilers, to 54s. per quarter; and Flour, 41s. to 42s. per sack.

Bristol, Oct. 14.—The sales of Corn, &c. at our markets are very limited, and the supplies are small, yet they appear fully equal to the demand.—Wheat, from 5s. 6d. to 7s. 3d.; Barley, 3s. 9d. to 5s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Oats, 2s. 9d. to 4s. 3d.; Beans, 4s. 9d. to 7s. 3d.; and Malt, 5s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per bushel, Imperial. Flour, Seconds, 30s. to 43s. per bag.

Ipswich, Oct. 14.—We had a short supply of Corn at market to-day; the sale was dull, at about last week's prices, as follow:—Wheat, 52s. to 58s.; Barley, 32s. to 38s.; Beans, 46s. to 48s.; and Pease, 50s. to 52s. per qr.

Wisbech, Oct. 14.—Our market continues steady for all descriptions of Grain, at last week's prices.—Red Wheat, 50s. to 55s.; White ditto, 55s. to 57s.; Oats, 22s. to 24s.; Beans, 44s. to 46s.; and old ditto, 50s. per qr.—Brown Mustard Seed, 14s. to 16s. per bushel.

Wakefield, Oct. 13.—The supply of Wheat here this morning is large, which, with the dull accounts from the London and Liverpool markets, has caused the trade to be heavy to-day: the best samples are nearly, and all other sorts full 1s. per qr. lower. The supply of Oats is large, and the sale has been dull, at rather lower prices. Shelling is 6d. per load cheaper. New Barley has been heavy sale, and rather cheaper, 43s. being the general price for fine Norfolk. Malt is flat. Beans are unaltered in value. The accounts from the Fishery are improving, although the produce will be very deficient, and Rapeseed has become very dull.

Manchester, Oct. 14.—The increasing supplies of almost every article, with the depressed reports from the principal markets, have occasioned a dull sale since this day se'nnight; and the business transacted has been confined to the immediate wants of purchasers. At this day's market there was a large show of samples, with a thin attendance of buyers, and few sales were made, even at reduced prices: Wheat, Barley, and Pease, are the turn cheaper. Oats move off slowly, at a reduction of 1d. to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 45lbs. Malt—the finest qualities only are inquired after, at our currency.—Flour is more plentiful, and to effect sales, lower prices must be submitted to.

COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &c.

Norwich Castle Meadow, Oct. 14.—The supply of fat Cattle to this day's market was very short; prices 8s. to 8s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs., sinking offal, but we had a very large show of Store Stock, of all sorts. Scots sold from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per stone, when fat; Short Horns, 3s. to 4s.; Cows and Calves, but few good ones here, and the sale not brisk. Horses, of the cart kind, a great many offered, but few sold, and those at lower prices. Of Sheep and Lambs we had a large number penned. Shearlings sold from 25s. to 30s., fat ones to 39s.; Down Ewes, 24s. to 29s.; Lambs, from 12s. to 18s. each. Pigs selling rather better than of late.—Meat: Beef, 7d. to 9d.; Veal, 6½d. to 9d.; Mutton, 6d. to 7½d.; and Pork, 6d. to 8d. per lb.

Horncastle, Oct. 14.—Beef, 7s. to 8s. per stone of 14 lbs. Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, 5d. to 6d.; Pork, 7d.; and Veal, 6d. to 7d. per lb.

Bristol, Oct. 12.—Beef, from 6d. to 6½d.; Mutton, 4d. to 5d.; and Pork, 5d. to 5½d. per lb. sinking offal.

At *Morpeth Market*, Oct. 11th, there was a very great supply of Cattle, Sheep, and Lambs, which met with dull sale; prices lower, and a great many left unsold.—Beef, from 5s. to 5s. 6d.; Mutton, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; and Lamb, 4s. 3d. to 5s. per stone, sinking offal.

AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended October 6, 1826.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*	56	11	36	8	27	2
Essex	54	6	34	10	26	1
Kent	57	7	36	0	28	4
Sussex	54	0	37	6	25	0
Suffolk	52	5	33	1	28	5
Cambridgeshire	52	7	32	0	23	4
Norfolk	52	0	33	6	26	4
Lincolnshire	54	2	38	7	23	6
Yorkshire	53	9	38	4	27	1
Durham	53	0	38	0	31	0
Northumberland	56	0	37	2	31	1
Cumberland	63	11	37	10	31	6
Westmoreland	63	10	44	0	34	11
Lancashire	61	5	0	0	34	10
Cheshire	59	5	54	2	31	6
Gloucestershire	55	11	40	0	34	1
Somersetshire	55	9	40	11	24	6
Monmouthshire	56	8	45	9	32	0
Devonshire	56	2	37	0	29	8
Cornwall	59	7	36	0	29	7
Dorsetshire	54	5	35	4	29	2
Hampshire	53	9	35	8	27	9
North Wales	63	4	46	10	30	6
South Wales	57	0	40	6	22	7

* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.